

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-06

OES-06 PRS-01 /054 W

-----180139Z 078297 /14

R 171045Z MAR 77

FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0656

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS ALEXANDRIA 0192

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EWWT, EG

SUBJECT: MISSING AT SEA (CONTINUED)

REF: ALEXANDRIA 0103 (NOTAL)

1. PRESS MARCH 18 OFFERS FOLLOW-UP ON STORY OF SS GUIZEH (GIZA), EGYPTIAN CARGO SHIP WHICH CAUGHT FIRE AND DRIFTED ABANDONED FOR SEVERAL WEEKS NEAR BUSY SHIPPING LANES OFF ALEXANDRIA. REFTEL TOLD OF "ITALIAN" TUG WHICH APPARENTLY ATTEMPTED SALVAGE WITHOUT INFORMING EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES, WHOSE CAPTAIN WAS ACCUSED OF TRYING TO STEAL THE HULK WHEN SPOTTED A DAY LATER SOME TWENTY MILES WEST OF HARBOR.

2. FOLLOW-UP STORY NOW REPORTS "CULPRIT" WAS GREEK TUG, BUT APPARENTLY UNDER CHARTER TO SAIPEM, ITALIAN PETROLEUM INDUSTRY FIRM THAT HAS JUST COMPLETED CONSTRUCTION OF SVMED PIPELINE WHICH TERMINATES NEAR ALEXANDRIA. LOCAL COURT HAS NOW ACCEPTED TUG CAPTAIN'S STORY THAT HE WAS ONLY SEEKING REMOVE HAZARD TO NAVIGATION WHEN HE BROUGHT VESSEL INTO SHALLOW WATERS NEAR ABU KIR.

3. IN SEPARATE HEARINGS, COURT FOUND GUIZEH'S ASSISTANT ENGINEER UNCLASSIFIED

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RESPONSIBLE FOR FIRE WHICH GUTTED SHIP AND HE WILL BE TRIED FOR CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE.

4. COMMENT: SHIPPING SOURCES EARLIER HINTED AT ENGINEER'S ROLE IN FIRE WHICH ENGULFED ENGINE ROOM. HE WAS ONLY CASUALTY OF FAST-SPREADING FIRE WHICH APPEARED FED BY GAS OR OIL. SHIP HAD JUST COMPLETED EXTENSIVE OVERHAUL AND WAS PRESUMED MECHANICALLY SOUND.

CHASE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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